# INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

### CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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The following is a summary of information on Soviet and East German military activities, received prior to 1 May 1955:

#### A. <u>General</u>:

The transfer of Soviet troops to summer camps began on 19 April. Normal training activity was continuing in the KVP post areas. Three additional installations have been evacuated in Potsdam for occupancy by the KVP.

#### B. Soviet Activities:

### 1. First Guards Mechanized Army:

Tank details of the 9th Tank Division with T-54 tanks returned from Letzling Heath to Riesa on 12 and 16 April.

#### Second Guards Mechanized Army:

The barracks installations in Doeberitz were occupied to capacity until 25 April. The following number of shipments with artillery units rotated to Jueterbog between 21 and 26 April: three shipments of the 1st Mechanized Division between 21 and 23 April, one arriving and two returning shipments of the 1st Mechanized Division between 24 and 26 April, and two shipments of the 9th and 12th Guards Tank Divisions each between 22 and 26 April and between 22 and 25 April respectively.

# 3. Third Guards Mechanized Army:

Sixteen shipments from Dessau and four shipments from Zerbst, probably with units of the 7th Guards Tank Division, were dispatched to Jueterbog between 25 and 27 April. Three shipments with elements of the 6th Guards Tank Division went from Wittenberg to Jueterbog on 26 April. One shipment was dispatched from Sperenberg to Tangerhuette on 23 April.

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#### 4. Fourth Guards Mechanzied Army:

Rear elements of the 25th Tank Division were scheduled to depart from Oranienburg by 1 May. Prior to 22 April, the barracks installations in Frenzlau were occupied to capacity. One or two shipments, loaded in part with large pontoon vehicles, were dispatched from Eberswalde to Tangerhuette on 23 April.

#### 5. Eighth Guards Army:

A firing detail of the 36th Guards Tank Regiment of the 20th Guards Mechanized Division went from Zeitz to Letzling Heath on 19 April. The transfer of the 21st Guards Mechanized Division to Lossa was indicated by tank shipments from Ammendorf to Rossleben between 19 and 21 April. Firing of light artillery took place at the Kindel troop training grounds on 18 April. One shipment with four tanks, 17 guns and billeting equipment was unloaded in Eisenach on 26 April. It was determined from the motor vehicle numbers that the units involved in this shipment probably came from Weissenfels and Merseburg.

#### 6. Third Shock Army:

The transfer of units of the IX Rifle Corps to Letzling Heath was indicated by the dispatch of a great number of troop trains from Dranse, Wismar and Hagenow to Magdeburg on 22 April. One troop train was sent from RBD Magdeburg to RBD Erfurt. Two shipments of the 20th AT Artillery Brigade went from Brandenburg to Jaevenitz on 25 April.

#### 7. IV Artillery Corps:

Two shipments were dispatched from Wuensdorf to Kroepelin on 24 April. The arrival of 6 x 122 mm "corps guns" was observed at Wildpark on 19 April. On 23 and 24 April, 140 trucks with 1600 men and billeting equipment and 50 guns were transferred by road from Rathenow to Alengrabow. Preparations for the departure of the 65th Mortar Brigade from Rathenow were in progress.

#### 8. Miscellaneous:

On 5 April, Soviet units with 48 x 85 mm AA guns crossed the Wolgast bridge by road; the same untis were later observed on the Koserow-Ahlbeck road. One troop train each was dispatched from Kroepelin to Wolgast on 7 and 16 April.

#### C. East German Military Developments:

# 1. New Assignment for Major General Gartmann

On 1 April, Major General Hermann Gartmann was appointed military advisor to Ernst Wollweber, State Secretary for State Security and chief of the Border Police, Transport Police and State Security Guard units. Colonel H. Stock, succeeded Gartmann as chief of the Border Police.

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# 2. Discharges. Transfers and Arrival of New KVP Personnel:

- a. Prenzlau Division: 1834 men had been discharged and 2250 men were scheduled to arrive.
- b. Eggesin Division: 1550 men had been discharged and 2700 men were scheduled to arrive.
- c. Oranienburg: 200 new men arrived at the former concentration camp at Oranienburg. One hundred and fifty men were transferred from there to other posts, presumably to units now in the process of activation.
- d. Potsdam: Six hundred men were scheduled to arrive in Potsdam by 1 May. One hundred and sixty men of the motor transport school in Potsdam were assigned to other units. The arrival of new students was expected. The former officers' school, the former hospital for epileptics and a building on Dortustrasse were taken over by the KVP after mid-April. These installations are believed to have a capacity for about 4000 men.

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